

Appl. No. 09/815,243
Amdt. dated October 21, 2003
Reply to Office action of July 10, 2003

In the Claims:

Please amend Claim 8 as follows (the changes in these claims are shown with ~~striketrough~~ for deleted matter and underlines for added matter). A complete listing of the claims is listed below with proper claim identifiers.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A wet wipe comprising:
a fibrous material;
a binder composition for binding said fibrous material into an integral web,
said binder composition comprising a cationic polymer having water solubility properties that vary depending on the type and amount of ions present in water; and
said fibrous material being wetted by a wetting solution containing at least about 0.5 weight percent of a divalent metal salt which is capable of forming a complex anion with said cationic polymer, whereby said cationic polymer is insoluble in said wetting solution and said wet wipe is dispersible in tap water.
2. (Previously presented) The wet wipe of claim 1, wherein said divalent metal salt is selected from ZnX_2 , MgX_2 , or CaX_2 , wherein X is a halogen atom.
3. (Original) The wet wipe of claim 2, wherein said halogen atom is selected from Cl, Br and I.
4. (Original) The wet wipe of claim 1, wherein said divalent metal salt is selected from $ZnCl_2$, $MgCl_2$, and $CaCl_2$.
5. (Previously presented) The wet wipe of claim 1, wherein said polymer comprises cationic monomeric units and water insoluble, hydrophobic monomeric units.
6. (Previously presented) The wet wipe of claim 5, where said cationic monomeric units are selected from [2-(methacryloyloxy)ethyl] trimethylammonium chloride, (3-acrylamidopropyl)trimethylammonium chloride, N,N-diallyldimethylammoni-

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um chloride, acryloxyethyltrimethylammonium chloride, acryloxyethyldimethylbenzylammonium chloride, methacryloxyethyldimethylammonium chloride, methacryloxyethyldimethylbenzylammonium chloride or quaternized vinyl pyridine.

7. (Previously presented) The wet wipe of claim 5, wherein said water insoluble hydrophobic monomeric units are selected from n-butyl acrylate or 2-ethylhexyl acrylate.

8. (Currently amended) The wet wipe of claim 5, wherein said water insoluble hydrophobic monomeric units are selected from n-alkyl or branched alkyl, substituted acrylamides, or n-alkyl or branched alkyl substituted acrylic esters.

9. (Previously presented) The wet wipe of claim 5, wherein said water insoluble hydrophobic monomeric units are n-alkyl or branched alkyl substituted vinylic monomeric units.

10. (Previously presented) The wet wipe of claim 5, wherein said cationic polymer further comprises hydrophilic or water-soluble nonionic monomeric units.

11. (Previously presented) The wet wipe of claim 10, wherein said hydrophilic or water-soluble nonionic monomeric units are selected from acrylamide, methacrylamide, substituted acrylamide, substituted methacrylamides, hydroxyalkyl acrylates, hydroxyalkyl methacrylates, polyethyleneglycol acrylates, polyethyleneglycol methacrylates, and vinyl pyrrolidone.

12. (Previously presented) A wet wipe comprising:
a fibrous material;
a binder composition for binding said fibrous material into an integral web, said binder composition comprising a polymer of [2-(methacryloyloxy)ethyl]trimethyl ammonium chlorid⁻, n-butyl acrylat⁻ and 2-ethylhexyl acrylate; and

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said fibrous material being wetted by a wetting solution containing at least about 0.5 weight percent divalent metal salt that is capable of forming a complex anion with said polymer, whereby said polymer is insoluble in said wetting solution and said wet wipe is dispersible in tap water.

13. (Previously presented) The wet wipe of claim 12, wherein said divalent metal salt is selected from ZnCl_2 , MgCl_2 , or CaCl_2 .

14. (Withdrawn) A method of making a wet wipe comprising: forming a substrate of fibrous material; applying to said substrate a binder composition for said fibrous material comprising a cationic polymer; and applying to said substrate a wetting solution containing at least about 0.5 weight percent divalent metal salt that is capable of forming a complex anion.

15. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 14, wherein said divalent metal salt is selected from ZnX_2 , MgX_2 , and CaX_2 , wherein X is a halogen atom.

16. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 14, wherein said halogen atom is selected from Cl, Br and I.

17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 14, wherein said divalent metal salt is selected from ZnCl_2 , MgCl_2 , and CaCl_2 .

18. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 14, wherein said cationic polymer comprises a cationic monomer and at least one water insoluble, hydrophobic monomer.

19. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 18, where said cationic monomer is selected from [2-(methacryloyloxy)ethyl]trimethyl ammonium chloride, (3-Acrylamidopropyl)trimethylammonium chloride, N,N-diallyldimethylammonium chloride, acryloxyethyltrimethyl ammonium chloride, acryloxyethyldimethylbenzyl ammonium chloride, methacryloxyethyldimethyl ammonium chloride, methacryloxyethyltrimethylbenzyl ammonium chloride and quaternized vinyl pyridine.

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20. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 18, wherein said water insoluble hydrophobic monomer is selected from n-butyl acrylate and 2-ethylhexyl acrylate.

21. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 18, wherein said water insoluble hydrophobic monomer is selected from n-alkyl, branched alkyl, acrylamide, and acrylic esters.

22. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 18, wherein said water insoluble hydrophobic monomer is an n-alkyl or branched vinyl function monomer.

23. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 18 further comprising a hydrophilic or water-soluble nonionic monomer.

24. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23, wherein said hydrophilic or water-soluble nonionic monomer is selected from acrylamide, methacrylamides, substituted acrylamides, substituted methacrylamides, hydroxyalkyl acrylates, hydroxyalkyl methacrylates, polyethyleneglycol acrylates, polyethyleneglycol methacrylates, and vinyl pyrrolidone.

25. (Withdrawn) A method of making a wet wipe comprising: forming a substrate of fibrous material; applying to said substrate a binder composition for said fibrous material comprising a triggerable cationic polymer and a divalent metal salt that is capable of forming a complex anion; and applying to said substrate a wetting solution.

26. (Previously presented) A wet wipe comprising:
a fibrous material;
a binder composition for binding said fibrous material into an integral web, said binder composition comprising a cationic polymer having water solubility properties that vary depending on the type and amount of ions present in water; and
said fibrous material being wetted by a wetting solution containing at least about 0.5 weight percent of a divalent metal salt, whereby said cationic polymer is insoluble in said wetting solution and said wet wipe is dispersible in tap water.

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27. (Previously presented) A wet wipe comprising:
- a fibrous material;
 - a binder composition for binding said fibrous material into an integral web, said binder composition comprising a polymer of [2-(methacryloyloxy)ethyl]trimethyl ammonium chloride, n-butyl acrylate and 2-ethylhexyl acrylate; and
 - said fibrous material being wetted by a wetting solution containing at least about 0.5 weight percent divalent metal salt, whereby said polymer is insoluble in said wetting solution and said wet wipe is dispersible in tap water.